

**REMARKS**

In the Restriction Requirement mailed on May 20, 2005, the Examiner restricted claims 1-42. Specifically, the Examiner restricted the claims 1-42 to one of the following groups:

Group I: Claims 1-27 and 35-42, as being drawn to welding implements, classified in class 219, subclasses 75 and 137.62; and

Group II: Claims 28-34, as being drawn to a method of manufacturing a welding implement, classified in class 29, subclass 428.

Although Applicant does not necessarily agree with the Examiner's reasons for restriction and the restriction requirement, Applicant elects to prosecute claims 1-27 and 35-42 of Group I. Therefore, by the present Response, Applicant has canceled claims 28-34 without prejudice for possible inclusion in a divisional application. Upon entry of the amendments, claims 1-27 and 35-42 will be pending in the present application. Respectfully, Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

**Conclusion**

If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: June 20, 2005

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